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**MAYOR EMANUEL INTRODUCES ORDINANCE TO ALLOW HISTORIC LATHROP HOMES
DEVELOPMENT TO EXPAND ACCESS TO THE CHICAGO RIVER**

Mayor Rahm Emanuel today introduced an ordinance to the Chicago City Council to provide the historic Lathrop Homes development with easements to help revitalize the green space and expand pedestrian access along the North Branch of the Chicago River.

"The City is committed to expanding access to and enhancing recreational activities along the Chicago River," Mayor Emanuel said. "This redevelopment represents another step in our goal of making the river the next great recreational park for our residents."

The ordinance will provide an easement to re-route a portion of the Jimmy Thomas Nature Trail, build a River Bridge Walkway and build a new walkway under the Diversey Avenue Bridge.

The major overhaul and redevelopment of the Julia C. Lathrop Homes along the Chicago River's North Branch will ultimately provide hundreds of new and restored CHA, affordable and market rate residential units. In addition to the overhauled residential units, the reimagined Lathrop Homes will also have new retail spaces, an overhauled courtyard, and the improved recreational access to the Chicago River.

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